OASIS FAQ's

Questions and comments may be answered at (877) 201-4721

Q: When a birth date is completely unknown the Uniform Data Submission Specifications for the OASIS-B1 require field M0066_PAT_BIRTH_DT to be filled with 8 dashes. When doing this we receive a fatal record error 225 for these records.

A: Yes, currently in the State System you will receive a fatal record 225 with 8 dashes in field M0066_PAT_BIRTH_DT. HHA version 1.2 release date spring 2000 will have this problem corrected.

Q: How do I handle a situation where a patient's ID number (M0020_PAT_ID) changes between episodes of care?

A: This may occur when an HHA must assign a new patient ID for their own purposes. The following are recommended guide lines to following when updating M0020_PAT_ID or other data found on the "Maintain Patient Database" screen.

- Make sure that all records for one episode are entered, locked, and exported before entering any assessments for a second episode.

- When entering the SOC assessment for the second episode of care, first use the Maintain Patient Database tool to change the Patient ID to the appropriate value for the new episode of care. Then enter the new SOC assessment.

- If it is necessary to make a correction to an assessment for a previous episode of care for which the patient ID is different than the current patient ID for the same patient, make sure that, when you open the assessment for corrections, you answer no when prompted to update the assessment to reflect changes in patient information.

Q: The RN conducted a routine visit for Mr. N on March 4th. An aide visited on March 5th and March 6th. On March 7th, the physician called the home health agency and unexpectedly discontinued home care. What OASIS data is reported?

A: The nurse would complete the OASIS data being required for Response 9 of M0100 (Reason for Assessment). Response 9 indicates that this is an agency discharge. The information on the patient's status on the most recent visit by a qualified clinician (March 4th) is used to complete the discharge assessment. The Information Completion Date (M0090) would be March 7th, the day the agency learned of the discharge. Item M0906 (Discharge/Transfer/Death Date) would be reported as March 7th.

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February 28, 2000

Q: What is the required retention period of clinical records for HHAs?

A: HHAs are required to retain clinical information for 5 years after the patient's discharge based on existing regulations.